

## SENATE BILL NO. 347

INTRODUCED BY LIND, A. OLSON

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING LOBBYING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PRINCIPALS; AND AMENDING SECTION 5-7-208, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 5-7-208, MCA, is amended to read:

**"5-7-208. Principals to file report.** (1) A principal subject to this chapter shall file with the commissioner a report of payments made for the purpose of lobbying. A principal is subject to the reporting requirements of this section only if the principal makes total payments exceeding for the purpose of lobbying that exceed the amount specified under 5-7-112 ~~to one or more lobbyists~~ during a calendar year.

(2) If payments are made solely to influence legislative action, a report must be made:

(a) by February 15th of any year the legislature is in session and must include all payments made in that calendar year prior to February 1;

(b) by the 15th day of the calendar month following a calendar month in which the principal spent \$5,000 or more and must include all payments made during the prior calendar month; and

(c) no later than 30 days following adjournment of a legislative session and must include all payments made during the session, except as previously reported.

(3) If payments are made to influence any other official action by a public official or made to influence other action and legislative action, a report must be made:

(a) by February 15th of the calendar year following the payments and must include all payments made during the prior calendar year; and

(b) by the 15th day of the calendar month following a calendar month in which the principal spent \$5,000 or more and must include all payments made during the prior calendar month.

(4) If payments are not made during the reporting periods provided in subsections (2)(a), (2)(c), and (3)(a), the principal shall file a report stating that fact.

(5) Each report filed under this section must:

(a) list all payments for lobbying in each of the following categories:

- (i) printing;
- (ii) advertising, including production costs;
- (iii) postage;
- (iv) travel expenses;
- (v) salaries and fees, including allowances, rewards, and contingency fees;
- (vi) entertainment, including all foods and refreshments;
- (vii) telephone and telegraph; and
- (viii) other office expenses;

(b) itemize, identifying the payee and the beneficiary:

(i) each separate payment conferring \$25 or more benefit to any public official when the payment was made for the purpose of lobbying; and

(ii) each separate payment conferring \$100 or more benefit to more than one public official, regardless of individual benefit when the payment was made for the purpose of lobbying, except that in regard to a dinner or other function to which all senators or all representatives have been invited, the beneficiary may be listed as all members of that group without listing separately each person who attended;

(c) list each contribution and membership fee ~~which~~ that amounts to \$250 or more when aggregated over the period of 1 calendar year paid to the principal for the purpose of lobbying, with the full address of each payer and the issue area, if any, for which the payment was earmarked;

(d) list each official action on which the principal or the principal's agents exerted a major effort to support, oppose, or modify, together with a statement of the principal's position for or against the action; and

(e) be kept by the commissioner for a period of 10 years."

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